IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Ronald Maria Albert GEENS	Attorney Docket Q64846
Appln. No.: Not Assigned	Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
Confirmation No.: Not Assigned	Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: June 13, 2001

For: COMMUNICATION STACK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following section heading:

Page 1, after the title,   insert the section heading:

Background of the Invention

before the fifth paragraph beginning with "An object" insert the heading:

Summary of the Invention

Page 2, before the sixth paragraph beginning with "The above" insert the heading:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Page 3, before the second paragraph beginning with "In the following" insert the heading:

Detailed Description of the Invention

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

3. (Amended)Communication Network Element including a communication stack

(COST1) as claimed in claim 1

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following

new Abstract of the Disclosure.

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a communications stack, for connection management in a communications system. The communications system consists of at least two communicating application programs. Both application programs communicate over a connection via the communications stack. The communication stack comprises a connection resetting means that is adapted to reset the connection by closing all connection involved elements, a signal reception means that is able to receive at least one signal for managing said connection and a connection persisting means that is adapted to keep the connection persistent. The communications stack additionally contains a decision means that is adapted to delay the reset of the connection if a terminated application signal is received via the signal reception means. If the communication stack subsequently, via the signal reception means, receives a successful application restart signal, the decision means decides to persist the connection if the application restart signal is received before expiration of said delay.
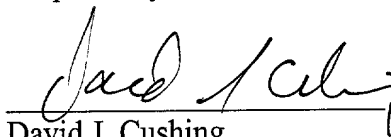
REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Cushing
Registration No. 28,703

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
  MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: June 13, 2001

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE TITLE:

    The title is changed as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

    The specification is changed as follows:

    Please insert the following section heading:

    Page 1,after the title, insert the section heading:

Background of the Invention

        before the fifth paragraph beginning with "An object" insert the heading:

Summary of the Invention

    Page 2,before the seventh paragraph beginning with "FIG. 1" insert the heading:

Brief Description of the Drawings

    Page 3,before the second paragraph beginning with "In the following" insert the heading:

Detailed Description of the Invention

IN THE CLAIMS:

    The claims are amended as follows:

    3.   <u>(Amended)</u>Communication Network Element including a communication stack

(COST1) as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE:

The abstract is changed as follows:

ABSTRACT

~~COMMUNICATION STACK~~

The present invention relates to a communications stack, for connection management in a communications system. The communications system consists of at least two communicating application programs. Both application programs communicate over a connection via the communications stack. The communication stack comprises a connection resetting means that is adapted to reset the connection by closing all connection involved elements, a signal reception means that is able to receive at least one signal for managing said connection and a connection persisting means that is adapted to keep the connection persistent. The communications stack additionally contains a decision means that is adapted to delay the reset of the connection if a terminated application signal is received via the signal reception means. If the communication stack subsequently, via the signal reception means, receives a successful application restart signal, the decision means decides to persist the connection if the application restart signal is received before expiration of said delay.